

CRIHAP

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配合联合国教科文组织亚太地区非物质文化遗产国际培训中心



CRIHAP

Contents

CRIHAP Feature	4
Review on Capacity Building Workshops (2012-2018) organized by CRIHAP and Recommendations on Future Activities	4
Global Updates	24
Training Workshop Spotlight	26
Enjoy Time in Fiji, a Crossroad of the Pacific <i>A review of the CRIHAP Capacity Building Workshop on the ICH Safeguarding Plan and International Assistance Requests Development in the Pacific Region</i>	26
Rediscover Cultural Memories of the Pacific <i>A Roundtable Interview with Heads of ICH Affairs of Small Island Developing States in the Pacific</i>	32
CRIHAP Updates	42
Workshop on ICH Inventorying Held in Bangladesh	43
Workshop on "Review on Capacity Building Workshops (2012-2018) organized by CRIHAP and Recommendations on Future Activities" Held in Chengdu	46
Training of Trainers Workshop on Implementation of the 2003 Convention for the Safeguarding of the ICH at the National Level Held in the Philippines	48
Workshop on Higher Education-based ICH Capacity Building Held in Mongolia	50

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Editor of the Issue
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CRIHAP Feature

Review on Capacity Building Workshops (2012-2018) organized by CRIHAP and Recommendations on Future Activities

"Review on Capacity Building Workshops (2012-2018) organized by CRIHAP and Recommendations on Future Activities" was held in Chengdu from October 16 to 19, 2019. This is a landmark training event of profound significance since the establishment of CRIHAP, summarizing the past and inspiring the future.

Officials from UNESCO field offices for Asia and the Pacific, UNESCO facilitators, representatives of other UNESCO Category 2 Centres in the Asia-Pacific region, and more than 20 trainees from 14 countries including the Republic of Korea, Mongolia, China, Thailand, Myanmar, Cambodia, Vietnam, Nepal, Laos, the Philippines, Pakistan, Fiji, Tonga, and Uzbekistan who have attended and about to attend CRIHAP training workshops reviewed over 40 ICH capacity-building training events and follow-up activities organized by CRIHAP since its establishment in 2012, carried out in-depth analysis and discussion focusing on themes, methods, and organization of CRIHAP training workshops, and put forward valuable suggestions and proposals for CRIHAP's future development.

This training workshop is an important component of the 7th International Festival of the Intangible Cultural Heritage Chengdu, China. It is jointly hosted by CRIHAP, UNESCO Beijing Office, and the Chengdu Municipal Administration of Culture, Radio, Television and Tourism, and organized by Chengdu ICH Safeguarding Center. Over 30 representatives engaged in ICH safeguarding from provincial cultural departments across China were invited to participate in the training as observers.



◀ UNESCO Assistant Director-General Ernesto Ottone Ramírez writes a message for CRIHAP that reads, "Thank you for your outstanding contribution to the safeguarding of intangible cultural heritage in the Asia-Pacific region and even the world as a whole."

46 training workshops over **9** years that reach **5** sub-regions and **40** member states in Asia-Pacific

ICH, like climate change, is a "global concern". As one of the seven UNESCO category 2 centres for ICH safeguarding worldwide, CRIHAP, since its inception, has been committed to capacity building for ICH safeguarding in the spirit of the Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage (hereinafter referred to as the "Convention"), serving 48 member states in the Asia-Pacific region at regional and national levels. As of December 2019, CRIHAP had organized 46 ICH capacity building training workshops for the Asia Pacific region. Over the past 9 years, in East Asia, South Asia, Central Asia, and the Pacific region, CRIHAP has launched training activities in a constant and effective way, focusing on such topics as ratification and implementation of the Convention, community-based ICH inventorying, safeguarding plan formulation, and nomination on the list. Through lectures on key concepts of the Convention, the complexity of ICH inventorying and the important role of communities, UNESCO facilitators introduced ideas and methods of ICH safeguarding to trainees, including officials in charge of cultural affairs, community representatives, ICH practitioners, experts, and scholars, enabling trainees to convey what they have learned to wider groups of people in beneficiary countries through follow-up trainings and activities. A "step by step" training pattern has been adopted and developed in countries like Cambodia, Pakistan and Nepal. Taking Pakistan as an example, given the weak foundation of ICH safeguarding in the country, since 2015, CRIHAP has held 4 annual training sessions in China and

Pakistan respectively as follows:

- The Workshop on the Implementation of the Convention for the safeguarding of the ICH in Beijing, China in 2015
- The Workshop on Formulating Community-based ICH List in Islamabad, Pakistan in 2016
- The Workshop on the Development of ICH Safeguarding Plan in Lahore, Pakistan in 2017
- The Workshop on the Nomination of ICH under the Convention in Islamabad, Pakistan in 2018

"CRIHAP has helped us to actively carry out capacity building activities for the safeguarding of ICH, and to promote the overall development of ICH safeguarding in Pakistan. This has comprehensively enhanced our capacity to implement the Convention and removed the serious constraints caused by the lack of expertise in ICH," Nazir Ahmad, Deputy Secretary of the Ministry of Information, Broadcasting and National History and Literary Heritage Division Government of Pakistan, said after the training workshop.

In recent years, ICH has been playing an active role in leisure culture, knowledge dissemination, cultural identity, and settlement of social conflicts, bearing important values to contemporary society. Closely following the new trends and concerns of UNESCO in the field of ICH safeguarding, CRIHAP has conducted a series of practical training sessions focusing on a wider range of themes such as ICH and natural disasters, ICH and media, and ICH and youth.



“Bayankhongor Today” newspaper



“Arkhangai’s Life” Newspaper

▲ Several media agencies in Mongolia, including Bayankhongor Today and Life News Arkhangai, deliver in-depth coverage of the capacity building workshop on the implementation of the Convention for media practitioners in Mongolia, organized by CRIHAP in Darkhan-Uu province. The event is also publicized on social media, with the title of “Mongolia’s media agencies jointly safeguard intangible cultural heritage”.

In 2017, CRIHAP held a capacity building training workshop on the implementation of the Convention for media practitioners in Mongolia's Darhan-Ulle Province, the first of its kind for media professionals. In term of theme and form, this is the very first training workshop ever carried out in the Asia Pacific region and even the world as well. One of the participating media representatives is a Kazakh, the only ethnic minority group in Mongolia, who lives in a remote western province of Mongolia. He took a two-day, two-night long-distance bus for nearly 2,000 kilometers to attend the training. Before the training, many trainees said that although they had covered some cultural events before, they were unable to gain a clear understanding of the safeguarding of ICH. Some trainees could not even distinguish tangible cultural heritage from intangible cultural heritage and did not know how to obtain the data about inventoried ICH elements. After the training, they understood that they should be very cautious in handling "ethical issues" in their coverage of ICH. They have also become aware that community members are not merely information providers for media coverage; it will be better if they can participate in the writing of media reports. The trainees strongly suggested establishing a "working group" to exchange experience in media coverage of ICH.

In 2015, a major earthquake hit Nepal. CRIHAP consequently organized a training workshop on ICH and natural disasters in Kathmandu, popularizing the traditional knowledge of ICH and its importance in disaster prevention and mitigation. The Pacific region is also challenged by natural disasters such as hurricanes and tsunamis. Since 2014, CRIHAP has held the workshop on the Revitalization of Indigenous Architecture and Sustainable Building Skills in the Pacific in Apia, capital of Samoa. More than 50 trainees from Samoa, Fiji, Tonga, Niue, Cook Islands, New Zealand and other neighboring island nations participated in the training. Taking the indigenous architecture "Fale" in the South Pacific as case study, the workshop introduced its conservation and transmission, technical characteristics and construction expertise, and the important role of the building skills in resisting natural disasters. Considering that Falei requires professional knowledge and practical skills, an interactive course to build Falei buildings was designed, which was highly welcomed by the trainees.

Capacity-building programmes and ICH safeguarding in formal and non-formal education are UNESCO's two funding priorities. Building a global network of trainers has always been an important tool for UNESCO to implement its global capacity-building strategy. To support the implementation of the UNESCO global capacity building strategy, in 2015 and 2017, CRIHAP organized the UNESCO Training of ICH Trainers Workshop in the Asia-Pacific Region. UNESCO attaches great importance to training of trainers in Central Asia. Over the past three years beginning in 2017, the Training of Trainers (Russian Speaking) Workshop for Central Asia was conducted by CRIHAP in Bishkek of Kyrgyzstan, Almaty of Kazakhstan, and Tashkent of Uzbekistan respectively, training a number of trainers who speak Russian and local languages across Central Asia. Obviously, at both regional and national levels, the network of ICH trainers in Central Asia has taken initial shape.

Formal and non-formal education programs in schools can make up for interruptions in the transmission of ICH due to various reasons. Establishing a cooperative network mechanism in the field of ICH and education can maximize the effect. In the past ten years, the Asia-Pacific region's investment in heritage research and education has increased year by year, but ICH education is an area that has been neglected. Universities play an important and sustainable role in ICH safeguarding, thanks to their professional talents specialized in the field. However, given the current situation that only one-third of colleges and universities use materials relating to the Convention or capacity-building in their ICH courses, it is urgent to organize trainings to help them integrate the spirit and content of the Convention into their courses.

As the first training workshop connecting the Convention with higher education, the Workshop on Linking 2003 Convention and University ICH Programs was organized by CRIHAP, in collaboration with the International and Networking Centre for ICH in the Asia-Pacific Region under the auspices of UNESCO (ICHCAP), UNESCO Bangkok office, and the Asia-Pacific Higher Education Network for Safeguarding ICH (APHEN-ICH). Following the workshop, trainees will modify unreasonable contents in ICH courses in accordance with what they learned from the workshop, in the spirit of the Convention and pursuant to the text of capacity building in the Convention.

CRIHAP training workshops generating "snowball effect" and leading to remarkable follow-up achievements of ICH safeguarding in beneficiary countries

A total of 1,461 direct beneficiaries participated in the 46 training sessions organized by CRHAP, boosting their awareness of ICH safeguarding. Following the training sessions, trainees have taken immediate actions and carried out a series of follow-up activities to popularize what they've learned. Through dissemination activities, ICH safeguarding gains momentum and the awareness of ICH safeguarding for all has been improved among such stakeholders as legislative bodies, cultural and arts institutions, social media, and educational and environmental sectors.

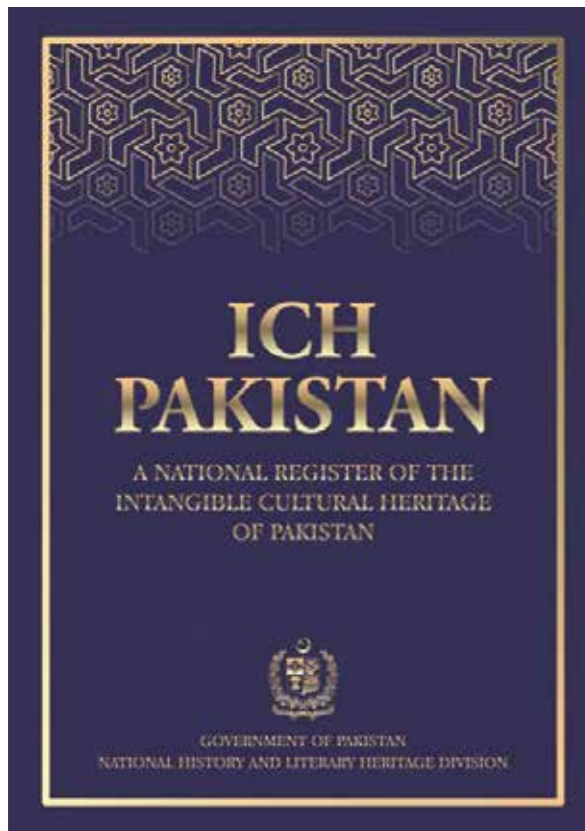
Pakistan

Thanks to the methods for developing ICH inventories introduced at CRIHAP training workshops, Pakistan immediately compiled and published a "Large Blueprint", namely ICH Pakistan-A National Register of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Pakistan, illustrated with pictures and texts. The national register covers 146 ICH elements in Pakistan, 45 of which are identified as national-level ICH elements. Containing definitions, geographical locations, categories, state of transmission, safeguarding measures, historical literature and communities with regard to inventoried elements, the document presents a comprehensive scenario of ICH safeguarding in Pakistan and establishes itself as a treasure house for understanding Pakistan's system of spiritual and cultural knowledge from the perspective of ICH.

In order to better understand the spirit of the Convention and carry out ICH safeguarding in the spirit of the Convention, many countries have translated the Convention into their own languages such as Urdu, and even popularized the text of the Convention at provincial and community levels by translating it into local languages so as to accurately deliver the spirit of the Convention.



The training workshops organized by CRIHAP in Nepal



▲ *ICH Pakistan: A National Register of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Pakistan is an illustrated document that contains 146 ICH elements in Pakistan.*

At the same time, Pakistan acted quickly with many countries in jointly nominating ICH elements such as Falconry and Nowrouz on the Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity. Suri Jagek was successfully inscribed on the List of Intangible Cultural Heritage in Need of Urgent Safeguarding, thanks to its combination of the observations of the sun, the moon and stars recorded in local annals, and its use of traditional metrological knowledge and astrological practices.

In recent years, Pakistan has begun to focus on the integration of ICH with education and sustainable development. Starting from nine pilot schools, Pakistan has incorporated ICH into teaching activities. After four sessions of training for enlightenment and guidance, Pakistan has developed from not knowing what ICH is about, to the comprehensive awareness of safeguarding ICH, and even to systematic institutional design. All the relevant stakeholders have been desiring to score achievements in the field of ICH. It can be said that Pakistan has become a typical example of achieving a "take-off" in ICH safeguarding across South Asia.

Nepal

Following the CRIHAP training workshops, Nepal has held a great variety of thematic training activities on its own, such as the National Convention-based Workshop, the Workshop on ICH Inventory Development based on Jirel and Pahari Communities, the National Workshop on Nomination of ICH Elements in Nepal, and the Youth Summer Camp on the Safeguarding of ICH.

Nepal has celebrated a wave of voluntary safeguarding of ICH across the country. As the Nepalese love their traditional culture, even without government funding, Nepal's ethnic minority communities, ICH practitioners, and bearers of traditional ICH elements have begun to voluntarily safeguard and pass on their national songs, dances, food culture, traditional herbs, Nepalese traditional costumes, folk songs and more. At present, Nepal's governmental agencies and non-governmental organizations are making joint efforts for the safeguarding of ICH. 756 local governments in urban and rural areas as well as universities have been incorporated into the government's safeguarding framework. Ethnic minority communities, NGOs, media agencies and international organizations such as UNESCO field offices have been included in the safeguarding system of non-governmental organizations.

Cambodia

CRIHAP organized three thematic workshops in Siem Reap from 2014 to 2016 focusing on such themes as Community-based Documentation and Inventorying of the ICH, Implementation of the Convention for the Safeguarding of the ICH: Digital Preservation, The Establishment of ICH Safeguarding Plan, as well as subsequent follow-up trainings in other provinces across Cambodia, all of which are considered very useful by Cambodia's ICH stakeholders. By implementing pilot ICH transmission projects organized by the Department of Culture and Arts of Mondokiri Province, such as transmission of traditional skills of jar wine making, transmission of traditional music and dance skills, and traditional skills of weaving and carving, Cambodians have become aware of the serious situation facing the safeguarding of ICH across the country. For example, young people are less sensitive to traditional jar wine making – five out of ten young trainees considered there is no need to increase income by making jar wine. A musical form transmitted only within Bunong Community sees merely three practitioners and two have died already. In the future, ICH safeguarding in Cambodia will reach communities deeper and wider, with focus on young people.

Thailand

The Department of Cultural Promotion of Thailand's Ministry of Culture has led efforts to put into practice the first-hand information of ICH safeguarding gained from CRIHAP training workshops and has organized trainings focusing on themes such as ICH safeguarding measures adopted at the community level. An office responsible for ICH safeguarding was established in Mae Hong Son Province, in the same way that Nan Province was designated as a creative city.

At the academic level, Thaksin University of Thailand set the discipline in ICH subject in cultural studies course, and its College of Local Wisdom is improving the discipline of the Studies of ICH Safeguarding. Thammasat University has made active efforts to organize workshops on ICH, and has collected ICH stories in the community and developed relevant archives in collaboration with Phatthalung Community of Thailand.

At all levels of communities, individuals and volunteer groups, the Pom Prap District Cultural Council is dedicated to safeguarding local culture and arts, folk wisdom, religious rituals, and festivals and folk customs through transmission of performing arts, traditional crafts, and traditional food. Some training projects for youth have been launched to increase young people's awareness of Thailand's traditional culture and arts through measures to safeguard and revitalize ICH elements such as food, monk alms bowl making, Thai boxing, Thai handcrafting. Efforts to exercise integrated community safeguarding and publicity, as represented by the century-old Hua Ta Khe canal market, have improved Thai people's understanding of the important values of traditional lifestyle concepts in contemporary times. The Little People in Conservation Group for ICH Safeguarding, a voluntary group, is integrating information technology with ICH safeguarding.

The Philippines

The National Commission for Culture and the Arts of the Republic of the Philippines (NCCA) has a department dedicated to the safeguarding of ICH. Following the first National Training of Trainers Workshop on Implementation of the Convention for the Safeguarding of the ICH organized by CRIHAP in Manila, NCCA decided and promised to develop projects for cultivating a younger generation who love traditional Philippines culture and are willing to protect it. NCCA also plans to organize community-based inventory development workshops in some local schools, with the aim of disseminating methods of inventorying, studying and safeguarding ICH

elements among young people and developing high-quality courseware and teaching materials on ICH.

The Philippines has begun to emphasize research on ICH safeguarding and has worked out a "Five-Year Plan" to encourage in-depth research on tangible characteristics of ICH and ICH as living traditions. It also hopes to launch long-term field surveys to train more trainers and experts for the safeguarding of ICH.

CRIHAP's workshop training pattern has been highly recognized in the Philippines. Lectures on the knowledge about the Convention, case study, group discussion, field visits, experience sharing and side meeting cooperation that CRIHAP has designed for training workshops will be "vivid samples" for Philippines's future ICH thematic trainings.

Uzbekistan

CRIHAP's training of trainers workshops have begun to taking root in Central Asia. Take Uzbekistan as an example. Trainers that have received training at CRIHAP workshops have gradually participated in projects aiming to integrate ICH into education in Uzbekistan. Pilot projects such as Ustoz-shogird launched at creative centers for children or educational clubs have provided platforms for ICH masters to impart to children the charm of ICH. Other government-supported educational programs, such as Makom art and storytelling, are also popular among students. Schools across Uzbekistan hold ICH festivals and ICH knowledge contests on a regular basis, and promote ICH-related education across the whole country by granting subsidies to ICH researchers.

Kazakhstan

At present, Kazakhstan has completed planning of several ICH projects under the national strategy and has launched surveys and studies of ICH elements in different areas across the country. At the same time, efforts have been made to train experts to safeguard and study ICH elements in remote communities.

To coordinate with the thematic workshops held by CRIHAP, Kazakhstan has also organized a number of interesting follow-up safeguarding activities, such as the long-term cultural surveys and studies in the west and south of Kazakhstan, the Sacred geography of Kazakhstan Project, Music of the Great Steppe: Turkic Epic, Week of Kuy, and the Kuy festivals across the country. CD albums of Kazakh ethnic music have also been produced and distributed.



A series of training workshops organized by CRIHAP in Thailand



Republic of Korea

The Republic of Korea has developed a well-established framework of ICH safeguarding represented by the Cultural Heritage Safeguarding Act and the ICH Safeguarding and Promotion Act. However, ICH-related stakeholders, in particular those from the private sector in ROK, rarely have opportunities to learn about international legal norms represented by the Convention. CRIHAP timely organized a timely training workshop in ROK in response to the country's transformation from the practitioner-centered ICH safeguarding pattern to the community-centered ICH safeguarding pattern under the framework of the Convention. Taking Korea's Nongak community as example, the workshop introduced principles and ethical dimensions that ensure the central role of community, substantially enhancing trainees' understanding of the international principles and norms governing ICH safeguarding.

Following the workshop, ROK chose higher education institutions as the most efficient platforms of training. Starting with the release of the Survey Report on the Current Status and Needs of ICH Education in Higher Education Institutions in the Asia-Pacific Region, ROK has officially established the Asia-Pacific Higher Education Network for Safeguarding ICH (APHEN-ICH). In 2019, the Seminar on ICH Teaching and Research Bases under APHEN-ICH was held in Buyeo, ROK and the Workshop on Linking Convention and University ICH Programs was organized jointly in Shanghai, China by CRIHAP, ICHCAP UNESCO Bangkok Office, and APHEN-ICH.

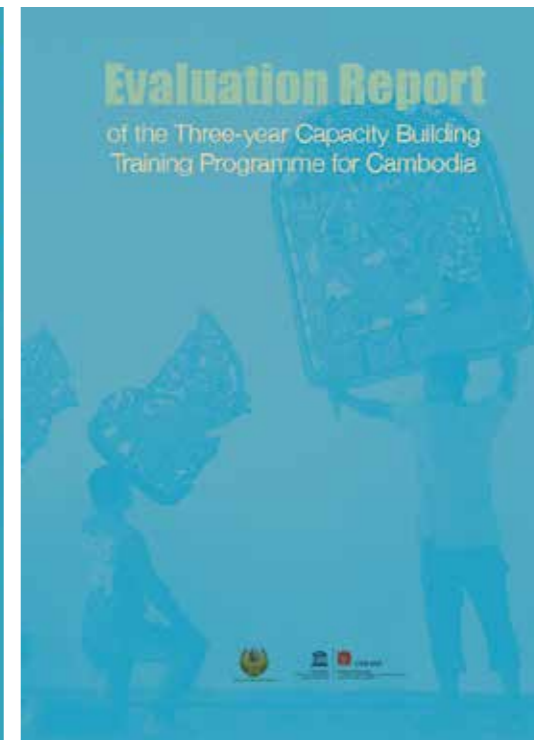
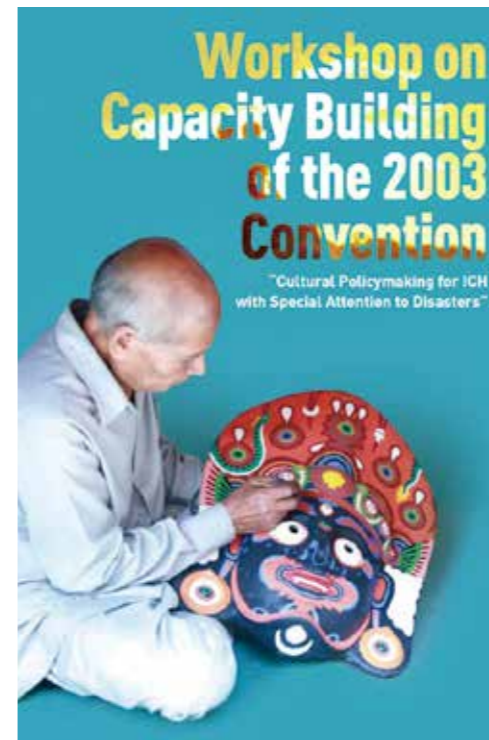
Mongolia

Through participation in the CRIHAP's training workshop for Mongolian media practitioners, Mongolian media agencies realized that they should actively engage in the coverage of regional ICH events across Mongolia and lead the public, communities and younger generations to participate in ICH safeguarding, while increasing their own awareness of ICH safeguarding. A number of recommendations for the government were highlighted at the workshop: introducing ICH-related academic projects to media agencies and universities specializing in communication; broadcasting ICH-related TV programs and documentaries in collaboration with the National Radio and Television of Mongolia and provincial channels; training media professionals specializing in ICH safeguarding; organizing international capacity building workshops for media practitioners, and exploring ways to co-produce TV programs with international media experts; and organizing annual competitions on ICH coverage and awarding winners.

Bayankhongor Today, Arkhangai's Life and other media agencies conducted in-depth coverage of the training workshop, and actively promoted it on social media with the title of "Mongolian media agencies jointly safeguard the country's ICH". The Mongolian media also covered projects such as the traditional game of Ice knuckle bone shooting, while some media agencies began to improve their interaction with local people. Among them, the newspaper Color of Ovorkhangai published interviews with ICH practitioners in 17 soums of Ovorkhangai province. With the continuous support of CRIHAP, the Report of Journalists containing 21 Journalist reports and articles as well as 5 videos of ICH elements in Mongolia will be published soon.



CRIHAP organizes the Capacity Building Workshop on Intangible Cultural Heritage and Community Resilience in Port Vila, Vanuatu.



Follow-up publications on CRIHAP training workshops



Democratic People's Republic of Korea

To cope with the serious lack of ICH safeguarding capacity in communities and related institutions of DPRK and the loose connection among experts, scholars, communities, and ICH practitioners, CRIHAP organized the first session of the Workshop on Community-based Inventorying of ICH in DPRK. As a result, the trainees have made significant progress in terms of safeguarding awareness, safeguarding methods and teamwork.

Following the training workshop, many trainees participating in the CRIHAP training workshop in 2016 were engaged in two working groups led by the Korean National Bureau of Cultural Heritage Protection in 2017 and organized regional training workshops on ICH safeguarding for 10 regions across DPRK. In 2018, to celebrate the 10th anniversary of its ratification of the Convention, DPRK hosted the Forum on the Ratification of the Convention and 10-year Achievements. The Law of DPRK on the Protection

of National Cultural Heritage was revised, adding more detailed provisions on safeguarding ICH. The Operational Guidelines for ICH Safeguarding accompanied by detailed explanations was distributed to all provinces across the country, laying a solid institutional foundation for the country's ICH safeguarding. Also in 2018, the Capacity Building Workshop on Community-based Inventorying and Nomination was held in Pyongyang. So far, Korean people, in particular women and young people, have shown great enthusiasm for the safeguarding of ICH. Over 110 ICH elements, including growing and using Korean ginseng, acupuncture treatment, traditional sauce making technique, and mung bean pancake making technique, have been inscribed on the National Inventory. Among the 12 provincial ICH lists under preparation, a large number of ICH elements reflect Korean people's daily life, especially Korean traditional folk remedies and traditional food cooking. It can be said that DPRK has formed a complete ICH safeguarding system from the state to the local level. Korean people understand clearly the purpose of the ICH safeguarding plan and have read through all the relevant documents, therefore they are well prepared to understand actual needs for the safeguarding of ICH.



Fiji

Thanks to CRIHAP's training workshop on ICH, Fiji has increasingly realized the important role of ICH in achieving the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals. To support its national cultural policy, Fiji particularly emphasizes the need to train young ICH practitioners, and underlines the contribution and significance of young people to the recognition and safeguarding of ICH. This has been taken into consideration and reflected in the drafting of the Fiji National Framework for the Implementation of the Convention and related national policies.

Correspondingly, Fiji has carried out a series of interesting cultural activities, such as Fiji Cultural Mapping of Itaukei for Young ICH Practitioners, Nataleira Youths Traditional House Builders, Young chiefs Forum, Tailevu & Rewa Future Chiefs Forum, Methodist Church YPD Program, Suva Cultural Week/Festival to showcase the uniqueness of Fijian culture through art, Rotuma Youth Project, and Young Firewalkers of Beqa Island.



CRIHAP organizes several capacity building workshops in Mongolia. Among others, Capacity Building Workshop on the Role of Media for Implementation of the UNESCO 2003 Convention for the Safeguarding of ICH., held in Darkhan-Uu province, is the first of its kind ever organized by CRIHAP, in particular in terms of its theme and form, which sets an example for the Asia-Pacific region and even the world as a whole.



During the Workshop on Intangible Cultural Heritage Inventorying held in Dhaka, Bangladesh, CRIHAP coordinates with various partners and overcomes difficulties to enable a field visit to the Sonargon Community around Dhaka for an in-depth survey of local ICH projects of woodcarving, wooden painting and hand weaving.



Tonga

Following the Training Workshop on Community-based Inventorying of ICH held by CRIHAP for Tonga in 2016, Tonga initiated a national inventorying project on Tabu Island and carried out in the Vava'u and Ha'apai regions of Tabu Island the projects on ICH information collection, data copying and transcribing. Starting from 2017, besides opening traditional dance classes for children to teach them the essence of traditional Tongan dance, Tonga also has been self financing to protect Niuafa'ou Language, Tonga's traditional language. Tonga Cultural Features Week, as a Tongan cultural brand, has been held successively on 5 main islands in Tonga, winning high acclaim.



The capacity building workshops organized by CRIHAP in China



China

Previously, the concept of "community" translated from English referred to the administrative divisions defined by the government in the Chinese context. As a result of the clarification and dissemination by the training workshops, China is now basically clear about the definition of "community". In recent years, CRIHAP has continued to support the Training Project for Chinese ICH Bearers and Practitioners of the ICH Department of the Ministry of Culture and Tourism of China. In 2016 and 2017, CRIHAP organized two training of trainers workshops on the implementation of the Convention for university teachers participating in the project. In 2019, CRIHAP held the Workshop of the Training Project for ICH Bearers and Practitioners, designed especially for those university teachers who hadn't participated in the previous two workshops.



The training workshop organized by CRIHAP in Tonga





The Capacity Building Workshop on the Implementation of the Convention for Active Youth and the Sub-regional Training Workshop for Facilitators for Central Asia organized by CRIHAP in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan

Braving all challenges and forging head: Summarizing previous training experience, expanding new fields of training and developing new training topics, with the aim to continuously contribute to ICH safeguarding in the Asia-Pacific region.

Although Member States have embarked on the first steps of ICH safeguarding and their safeguarding systems have taken shape, public awareness of ICH safeguarding in the Asia-Pacific region still urgently needs improvement. Low income remains a concern for ICH practitioners and community participants. Given the limited manpower and funds available to ICH safeguarding at the state level, the ICH data collection, documentation, and digital protection remain weak at the legislative and community levels.

As some countries even face problems such as political instability, intensive population mobility, national and ethnic cultural identity, inadequate cooperation between governments and non-governmental organizations, scarcity of raw materials that traditional skills rely on heavily, and intergenerational transmission, it can be said that under the combined influence of political, economic and social factors, the process of ICH safeguarding is still full of challenges among Member States.

It is a common desire of Member States to continue cooperation with CRIHAP in the capacity-building programme, the safeguarding of ICH in formal and non-formal education, and training of ICH trainers. At the same time, facing the mounting complexity in the international society and increasing professionalism required for ICH safeguarding, some Member States also expect CRIHAP to hold training activities focusing on special themes, including ICH and Sustainable Development, ICH in emergencies, ICH and the Media, ICH and Youth, Policy Development of ICH Safeguarding, ICH and Gender, National Periodic Reporting, ICH and Disaster Risk Reduction, ICH and Non-Governmental Organizations, ICH International Assistance Requests, and ICH and Higher Education. CRIHAP will boost efforts in the Member States where training workshops have been held, and at the same time, explore training opportunities in new beneficiary countries.

In this workshop, all the representatives, based on their own experience from previous CRIHAP workshops, carried out group discussions, careful analysis and candid exchange of views which led to good recommendations for CRIHAP to better serve strategy of capacity building in the future.

Their recommendations are summarized as follows:

- In the selection of trainees, a trainee selection mechanism should be established which includes more ICH practitioners, ICH bearers and relevant stakeholders at the community level; not only urban communities but also remote rural communities should be considered. At the same time, the proportion of youth and women should be increased.
- In curriculum development, the content is a bit too brain mangling for such a tight schedule. Trainees need more time to discuss and digest, and more attention should be given to time allocation of classroom lectures and field scenario teaching.
- In the field scenario teaching, goals and objectives should be made available to the community in advance, and trainees should get access to sufficient information prior to the teaching so as to understand the purpose of the arrangement.
- In the translation of materials, training materials should be translated in advance into native and even local languages of beneficiary countries in order to accurately convey the training content.
- Cases selected by the trainers should better fit the localized context of the beneficiary country in order to ensure more targeted training.
- In addition to attending regular ICH meetings like conference of the States Parties, General Assembly of the States Parties to the 2003 Convention, Intergovernmental Committee for the safeguarding of the ICH, Coordination Meeting of UNESCO Category 2 Centres in the Field of the ICH, CRIHAP staff should attend more regional and professional international conferences such as the Intergovernmental Meeting of the Pacific Region on Culture, with the aim to learn about the cultural and ICH demands of more countries and regions.

All CRIHAP colleagues will cherish these valuable comments and suggestions, and live up to the ardent expectations of UNESCO and all ICH stakeholders by implementing UNESCO's capacity-building strategy and continuously serving the training workshops on capacity building for countries in the Asia-Pacific region. CRIHAP would like to extend its most sincere gratitude to all institutions and individuals for their support and care for CRIHAP's work!

Global Updates

Edited by Guan Jing, Tang Haijiao

The 14th session of the UNESCO Intergovernmental Committee for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage was convened from 9 to 14 December 2019 in Bogota, Colombia.

The Committee at its 14th session inscribed 5 new elements on the List of Intangible Cultural Heritage in Need of Urgent Safeguarding, 35 elements on the Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity and 2 elements on the Register of Good Safeguarding Practices, and meanwhile decided to remove the Aalst Carnival in Belgium from the Representative List (inscribed on the List in 2010).

So far, elements from 127 States Parties have been inscribed on the UNESCO Lists and Register of the Intangible Cultural Heritage, including 64 elements on the List of Intangible Cultural Heritage in Need of Urgent Safeguarding, 463 elements on the Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity, and 22 elements on the Register of Good Safeguarding Practices.

Annex

5 new elements inscribed on the List of Intangible Cultural Heritage in Need of Urgent Safeguarding:

- Buklog, thanksgiving ritual system of the Subanen (the Philippines)
- Rituals and practices associated with Kit Mikayi shrine (Kenya)
- Sega tambour Chagos (Mauritius)
- Seperu folkdance and associated practices (Botswana)
- Spring rite of Jura ski Karahod (Belarus)

35 new elements inscribed on the Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity

- 'Ile Samoa, fine mat and its cultural value (Samoa)
- 'Hatajo de Negritos' and 'Hatajo de Pallitas' from the Peruvian south-central coastline (Peru)
- Ak-kalpak craftsmanship, traditional knowledge and skills in making and wearing Kyrgyz men's headwear (Kyrgyzstan)
- Alpinism (France - Italy - Switzerland)
- Armenian letter art and its cultural expressions (Armenia)
- Artisanal talavera of Puebla and Tlaxcala (Mexico) and ceramics of Talavera de la Reina and El Puente del Arzobispo (Spain) making process (Mexico - Spain)
- Byzantine chant (Cyprus - Greece)
- Celestinian forgiveness celebration (Italy)
- Cultural Complex of Bumba-meu-boi from Maranhão (Brazil)
- Date palm, knowledge, skills, traditions and practices (Bahrain - Egypt - Iraq - Jordan - Kuwait - Mauritania - Morocco - Oman - Palestine - Saudi Arabia - Sudan - Tunisia - United Arab Emirates - Yemen)
- Drotárstvo, wire craft and art (Slovakia)
- Ethiopian epiphany (Ethiopia)
- Gnawa (Morocco)
- Holy Week processions in Mendrisio (Switzerland)
- Irish harping (Ireland)
- Khorazm dance, Lazgi (Uzbekistan)
- Kwagh-Hir theatrical performance (Nigeria)
- Morna, musical practice of Cabo Verde (Cabo Verde)
- Music and dance of Dominican Bachata (Dominican Republic)
- Nuad Thai, traditional Thai massage (Thailand)
- Ommegang of Brussels, an annual historical procession and popular festival (Belgium)

- Practice of traditional music and dance in Setesdal, playing, dancing and singing (stev/stevjing) (Norway)
- Practices and craftsmanship associated with the Damascene rose in Al-Mrah (Syrian Arab Republic)
- Practices of Then by Tày, Nùng and Thái ethnic groups in Viet nam (Vietnam)
- Provision of services and hospitality during the Arba'in visitation (Iraq)
- Silat (Malaysia)
- The festival of the Santísima Trinidad del Señor Jesús del Gran Poder in the city of La Paz (Bolivia)
- Tradition of Kosiv painted ceramics (Ukraine)
- Traditional skills of crafting and playing Dotār (Iran)
- Traditional technique of making Airag in Khokhuur and its associated customs (Mongolia)
- Traditional Turkish archery (Turkey)
- Traditional turkmen carpet making art in Turkmenistan (Turkmenistan)
- Traditions of Pencak Silat (Indonesia)
- Transhumance, the seasonal droving of livestock along migratory routes in the Mediterranean and in the Alps (Austria - Greece - Italy)
- Winter festivities, Carnival of Podence (Portugal)

2 new elements inscribed on the Register of Good Safeguarding Practices

- Biocultural programme for the safeguarding of the tradition of the Blessed Palm in Venezuela (Venezuela)
- Safeguarding strategy of traditional crafts for peace building (Colombia)

(Names of the elements come from the official website of UNESCO.)

The Aalst Carnival in Belgium became the first inscribed element removed from the Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity, highlighting a number of issues in the listing mechanisms of the Convention, which spurred UNESCO to rethink in an all-round way.

Previously at the 12th session of the Intergovernmental Committee, the element Xoan Singing of Phu Tho Province in Vietnam had been transferred from the List of Intangible Cultural Heritage in Need of Urgent Safeguarding to the Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity, setting off a heated discussion. The Aalst Carnival in Belgium became the first inscribed element removed from the Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity, due to recurrent sensitive religious issues. Spurring the Secretariat and States Parties once again to realize the urgency and necessity of rethinking the listing mechanisms of the Convention. At the session, the Secretariat summarized major issues regarding the listing mechanisms of the Convention as follows:

1. Lack of rules and criteria for removal of inscribed elements from the Lists or the Register and for transfer of the elements among the different Lists;
2. Lack of effective regulatory mechanisms and rules for inscribed elements;
3. The misunderstanding of the nature and purpose of the Lists and the Register by States Parties has led to excessive attention to the Representative List and inadequate use of the Register. Politicized inscription has triggered conflicts among States Parties;
4. It's perhaps impossible to form a just judgment on the values of ICH elements by reviewing nominations merely depending on nomination files.

In order to find effective solutions to the above-mentioned issues and safeguard the authority of the Convention and the credibility of the Lists and the Register, UNESCO decided to start an all-round rethinking of the listing mechanisms of the Convention next year, with the aim of developing as soon as possible transparent and reasonable regulations over inscribed elements, and making corresponding amendment to the Operational Directives where necessary.



Training Workshop Spotlight

Enjoy Time in Fiji, a Crossroad of the Pacific

A review of the CRIHAP Capacity Building Workshop on the ICH Safeguarding Plan and International Assistance Requests Development in the Pacific Region

By Guan Jing

Overview

Upon completion of its sixth training workshop since its establishment in Nadi, Fiji in May 2019, CRIHAP has, under the framework of the UNESCO capacity building strategy for the safeguarding of the intangible cultural heritage, spread its footprints to six South Pacific countries including Samoa, Australia, Tonga, New Zealand, Vanuatu and Fiji. Due to limited human and material resources, it is indeed not an easy task to arrange a training program that covers the whole Pacific region. Despite numerous difficulties arising from the one-year preparation process, CRIHAP eventually managed to invite representatives from cultural departments of 12 Pacific countries to attend the workshop, including Fiji, Solomon Islands, Cook Islands, Kiribati, Nauru, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu and the Federated States of Micronesia.

Scattered in the heart of the Pacific Ocean, there are some 20 Pacific island nations in Oceania except Australia and New Zealand. Once in a primitive stage of development, these island nations successively became colonies after Western colonists arrived in modern times. Following the end of World War Two, this region was managed as mandated territories and saw an upsurge of decolonization. Since the independence of Samoa in 1962, 14 nations across the region have become independent, including Samoa, Cook Islands, Nauru, Tonga, Fiji, Niue, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Tuvalu, Kiribati, Vanuatu, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, the Federated States of Micronesia, and Palau. Under the "huddling together for warmth" principle advocated by the United Nations, these scattered island



nations joined together to form "Small Island Developing States" (SIDS) , which has combined them to create a united force that plays an increasingly important role in the international community today.

Since the adoption of the UNESCO Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage (hereinafter referred to as the Convention) in 2003, 13 Pacific island nations have become States Parties to the Convention, except Niue. This indicates a transition from the ratification of the Convention to the comprehensive implementation of the Convention across the region, where improving ICH safeguarding systems and developing safeguarding plans at the national level has become a priority task for these nations. As of the 14th Session of the UNESCO Intergovernmental Committee for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage held in Bogota, Colombia in December 2019, there are three elements of Pacific island nations inscribed on the Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity, including Vanuatu sand drawings (inscribed in 2008, Vanuatu), Lakalaka, dances and sung speeches of Tonga (inscribed in 2008, Tonga), and 'le Samoa, fine mat and its cultural value (inscribed in 2019, Samoa). At the training workshop, the head of the cultural section of the UNESCO Office in Apia noted that the region will in the future focus on nominations for the List of Intangible Cultural Heritage in Urgent Need of Safeguarding as well as trans-regional nominations in order to facilitate coordinated development of SIDS.



A Snapshot of Fiji

Fiji, known as the Crossroad of the South Pacific Ocean, is a nation consisting of 332 islands, located to the east of Australia and the north of New Zealand. As the 180-degree longitude line runs through the nation, Fiji is also the easternmost and westernmost nation in the world. Situated on the meridian line, Fiji is among the earliest nations that embrace sunrise each day. Perhaps for this reason, local people are hospitable and pure-hearted, always wearing touching smile. Every new acquaintance would invite you to have a taste of Kava, a national drink that is served not only at tribal ceremonies but also in daily lives. It is a non-alcoholic, but slightly narcotic drink made from a plant root called Kava, which is dried, powdered and mixed with water to produce Kava wine. Believe me, you need to grit your teeth in order to drink it and would not want a second cup. The most common words that local people say are "It's Fiji time", meaning "Don't worry and take it easy. It's not world time, but Fiji time" , which may also sound like "Get on with your work. I'll slack off for a while."

Fiji is a multi-ethnic nation where diversified cultures, including Indian, Islamic, European and aboriginal, co-exist to present a fascinating scenario. The aboriginal people are descendants of Melanesians immigrated from Southeast Asia in remote antiquity. They intermarried with Polynesians from the 15th century, giving birth to Fijian, a unique mixed race on Pacific islands. Following the late 19th century when Fiji became a British colony, a great number of Indian laborers rushed to settle in Fiji. By the middle of the 20th century, Indian people had already outnumbered aboriginal people in Fiji. The two races have influenced each other in culture, religion, sport and lifestyle, coexisting in contradictions and excitements. For example, only aboriginal people can be called Fijian in earlier times; but according to national laws today, all nationals born in Fiji are Fijian, reflecting a continued struggle of Indian descendants for their rights. Despite their different races and beliefs, Fijians are all Fiji's nationals. They are always different, they are always the same.

The traditional society in Fiji is composed of various clans. Not classified by rank and public-private difference, clan members work together and help each other. The chieftain is in charge of all tribal affairs, including construction of dwellings and roads and organization of rituals and ceremonies. He even decides how many taros and sweet potatoes a clan member should grow in order to meet his needs for family livelihood. During the training workshop, I was quite fortunate to join a field visit to a local primitive tribe. Such a visit must be approved in advance, as an unexpected visit is not accepted. As female visitors should not wear strapless blouses or above knee skirts, trainees helped my colleagues and I who were in summer clothes to cover ourselves with colorful silk scarves. Hats and sunglasses are not allowed as well. It is considered a rude behavior to touch heads of tribal people, especially children, because head is believed by locals to be the most sacred part of a human body.



A Glimpse of Workshop

As a key training project organized by CRIHAP in 2019, this workshop and its related work remain fresh in my memory. To cope with the island people's character of "Take it easy for anything", the training workshop was listed on the agenda of both UNESCO and CRIHAP as early as the summer of 2018 followed by preparations in full swing. Changes happened all the time during the preparation process – from training themes to participants, budget plans, facilitators and even venues. When I eventually sat in the classroom in Nadi after a flight of over ten hours, I was able to feel a sense of relief and said, "I have finally made it." I had a very tight schedule of the five-day training: routine meeting every day, experience-sharing presentations twice, 15 interviews, and discussions with various parties on future cooperation. All my days in Fiji were fully occupied.

Some Reflections

About future orientation: As a UNESCO category 2 centre, CRIHAP has gained full knowledge about local needs, the current state and future orientation of ICH safeguarding across the region. In the following years, in addition to regional training of trainers workshops jointly organized with UNESCO Headquarters, consideration should be also given to in-depth three-year training series targeted specifically at one country, with the aim of establishing a successful model in the Pacific region for neighboring countries to learn from it. At the same time, efforts should be made to use a representative project as an opportunity for kicking off all-round training across the entire region.

From an overall perspective, despite their tiny size and population, island nations in the Pacific region are mostly blessed with abundant natural resources and strategic geographical locations. In recent years, many developed nations have gradually attached importance to cooperation with Pacific island nations and stepped up their activities. By continuously providing a series of capacity building services for the region, CRIHAP has, over the past six years, strengthened communication and partnership with the nations, and broadened the scope of experience sharing and mutual learning in ICH safeguarding. So far, CRIHAP has organized training projects at regional or national level in six nations across the region, attracting participants from all the 14 SIDS, thus making valuable contributions to ICH safeguarding and transmission in these nations.

About future development: When I was doing research, these words really touched me, "The Pacific Ocean is now warmer than before." Initially, I thought it described a situation in which the once secluded island nations are becoming increasingly open and gradually entering the world stage. But I felt a bit sad on second thought, because the ocean is becoming unhealthy and problematic due to human activities and global warming. Instead of focusing only on human environment, ICH safeguarding and transmission should also focus on natural environment which provides the basis for ICH. The conservation of natural environment should be also put on our agenda while safeguarding ICH.



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- i. Nauru, Palau and Tuvalu have not established diplomatic ties with China yet.
- ii. SIDS- Small Island Developing States refers to those low-lying coastal countries.

Rediscover Cultural Memories of the Pacific

A Roundtable Interview with Heads of ICH Affairs of Small Island Developing States in the Pacific

By Shen Ce

There are more than 10,000 islands scattered across the Pacific Ocean, with an area of more than 30 million square kilometers. Characterized by its primitive artistic images, Pacific culture features mysterious strength and magnificent imagination. However, the pain of once being colonized by the West and the over-exploitation of resources under the impact of industrial capitalism have combined to impede the development of these island states. Facing the same challenges of globalization and sustainable development, Pacific island states universally choose "culture as identity", hoping to solve these modern crises by safeguarding, researching and developing their own unique cultures. As 178 countries have become States Parties to the Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage (formally adopted by the 32nd Session of UNESCO in October 2003, hereinafter referred to as the Convention), people are rediscovering the gradually fading intangible cultural heritage of the Pacific featuring a strong marine culture.

In May 2019 in Fiji, the International Training Center for Intangible Cultural Heritage in the Asia-Pacific Region under the auspices of UNESCO (herein after referred to as CRIHAP) and the Department of Heritage & Arts under Fiji's Ministry of Education jointly organized the Capacity Building Workshop on the ICH Safeguarding Plan and International Assistance Requests Development in the Pacific Region, during which representatives from cultural departments of the 12 small island developing states in the Pacific region reported and discussed the state of ICH safeguarding in the region and their national cultural policies.

Guest speakers

Kate Ngatokorua, Policy Analyst and Cultural Policy Planner of Ministry of Cultural Development, Cook Islands

Steven Namosu Paukari, ICH Principal of Ministry of Culture and Tourism, Solomon Islands

Shandi Francisca Akken, Principal of Culture Department, Republic of Nauru

Matini Vailopa, Culture Officer of Cultural Department, Ministry of Interior and Rural Development, Tuvalu

Liline Morrissey, Business & Promotions Officer, Niue

Bola Noho, Senior Cultural Extension Officer of PNG National Cultural Commission

Senolita Fonokalafi, Assistant Senior Programme Officer of Cultural Heritage Department, Ministry of Tourism, Tonga

Taitusi Arhelger, Senior ICH Officer, Department of Heritage and Arts, Ministry of Education, Fiji



Most endangered ICH elements preserved through oral transmission

Shen Ce: The Pacific region boasts a thriving creativity of folk culture and unique marine spirit and culture such as sailing knowledge, village worship ceremonies, myths and legends, canoe making craftsmanship, traditional architectural craftsmanship of the South Pacific and tapa cloth art. These precious "cultural memories and experiences" representing the Pacific are gradually disappearing from people's lives. Is this related to the ways of ICH transmission in the region?

Kate Ngatokorua: The Cook Islands joined the Convention in 2016 but has not established the National ICH Inventory yet. The Cook Islands has rich and diverse ICH elements, and I love the myths and legends here. Culture is our identity, and this is particularly evident in the Pacific. Unlike the island state of Samoa under a huge negative impact of colonization by Germany and New Zealand and Hawaii annexed by the United States, the Cook Islands is very fortunate to have very powerful cultural genes. But it does not mean that we could stop paying attention to them. Like other Pacific states influenced by modernization and the reduction of related practitioners, ICH elements such as the native language, traditional knowledge and performing arts in the Cook Islands are gradually decreasing and fading in our lives. It is regrettable that quite a number of our people, especially young people, have migrated to New Zealand and are not speaking their mother tongue any more. They even look down on those still living in the Cook Islands. My job is to reawaken people's passion for our unique culture and art so as to protect our ICH elements and our culture.

Steven Namosu Paukari: Among the 9 people currently responsible for cultural affairs in the Ministry of Culture and Tourism of Solomon Islands, I'm the only one responsible for ICH safeguarding. Of course, we often communicate and cooperate with each other. ICH transmission in the Solomon Islands is based on oral transmission, which significantly distinguishes ourselves from other island states across the Pacific. For many practice-based ICH elements, we have no written records or other documentations but only practices involving community participation. If bearers of an ICH element die, this ICH element would disappear. This is very dangerous and challenging for ICH safeguarding in the Solomon Islands.

Shandi Francisca Akken: Many ICH elements in Nauru are endangered or extinct such as bird catching, traditional food making, traditional sailing and fishing methods, mat weaving, carols, war dances, traditional medicine, traditional canoe making and the myths and stories of ancient Nauru. Concentrated in very primitive communities and villages, many of them are passed down orally, so written records are urgently needed. I think the priority is to safeguard ancient Nauruan. Today, many people in Nauru don't speak their mother tongue, leaving great room for improvement in preserving the language.

Senolita Fonokalafi: Tonga has quite a number of interesting ICH elements, including traditional knowledge systems related to agriculture, fisheries and navigation, traditional crafts related to indigenous architecture, tapa cloth and fakala



flower production, traditional performing arts such as Me'e, Tu'upaki, Otuhaka and Fahaiula, social practices and rituals related to traditional governance systems as well as genealogy and oral history of Tongan people.

There is no doubt that under the influence of globalization and modernization, great changes have taken place in Tongan society. Many people who previously lived in rural areas have moved to cities such as the capital Nukualofa, and a considerable number of residents have migrated to other countries. At present, there are more Tongan people living abroad than in Tonga, who have introduced a large number of elements of foreign cultures. Development projects brought by Westerners have had some adverse effects on Tonga's traditional community life as well. Given that most ICH elements in Tonga are transmitted by families, quite a number of them are under threat. Without continued and enhanced safeguarding activities, these precious intangible cultural heritage elements might eventually become extinct.

Digital documentation: Modern transformation of ancient cultural expressions

Shen Ce: Frequent natural disasters such as volcanic eruptions, hurricanes and tsunamis in many Pacific island states directly threaten the survival of their ICH elements, but some of them also play an important role in disaster prevention, mitigation and post-disaster reconstruction. So there is an urgent need to collect basic ICH information, sort documents and establish an ICH data network. How did you cope with it in this respect?

Kate Ngatokorua: Due to the lack of temperature control capability in The Cook Islands, 5,965 items of audiovisual ICH materials from the early 18th-19th centuries were sent to the Nga Taonga Sound and Vision Center in Wellington, New Zealand. Relevant researchers then need to go to New Zealand to study and analyze the materials before sending them back for digitization. Based on these audiovisual materials, we have completed the sorting of about 50,000 digital files. The Cook Islands has been looking for technical support in this area to complete ICH documentation. I have great enthusiasm for documentation management and hope to do more work in this area in the future.

Taitusi Arhelger: With the premise that intellectual property rights are guaranteed, we used Korean digital preservation and conversion technology to collect traditional music from indigenous communities in Fiji, converted into CDs and posted them on YouTube.

Steven Namosu Paukari: We are vigorously protecting bamboo pipe music by holding Bamboo Tube Music Festival, because this is a very representative cultural tradition of the Solomon Islands and it can be adapted into modern elements for re-creation. So if we are to nominate any element for inscription on the Representative List, we will choose bamboo pipe music.

Bola Noho: Papua New Guinea has a unique primitive mask art made of special clay and symbols, an ancient traditional costume painting ceremony and various traditional national cultural festivals. Unlike Polynesian and Micronesian islands where mask culture is rarely seen, Melanesia (one of the three largest islands in the Pacific with some of its islands in Papua New Guinea), rich in mask art, is one of very few areas where masks are used to communicate with the spirits of ancestors. Although many precious cultural heritages are dying under the influence of globalization and modernization, we can still transform these ancient forms of cultural expression into a modern form of visual art, which will be more easily accepted, just like photography and exhibitions.

Many of these activities are carried out by PNG National Cultural Commission. In 2009, the government began to lead the Cultural Mapping Programme(CMP), involving four regions. We have completed mapping of the southern region and the island area, leaving two regions stalled due to insufficient funding. In 2010, we launched the Cultural Database Programme. At present, as Papua New Guinea's cultural festivals, events and performances are largely dependent on financial support, so many activities are not sustainable.

ICH safeguarding in tiny Pacific island states

Shen Ce: Please briefly introduce the history and culture of Tuvalu and its representative ICH elements.

Matini Vailopa: Tuvalu is an independent island state (becoming independent in October 1978) in the Polynesian Islands, adjacent to Australia and Hawaii, with a total area of only 26 square kilometers. According to the latest statistics in 2019, its population is 11,363. As a very small island state, its biggest problems are climate change and rising sea level.

Tuvalu has a rich and diverse culture such as traditional dance, community singing Fakaseasea, traditional sports that are very popular among communities and villagers and some folk traditional practices. For example, a community dance called Fatele commonly performed at welcome farewell ceremonies will be our preferred activity to show visitors. Of course, there are fishing competitions, weaving skills, and traditional games, among others. Today, culture plays a very important role in rural



development and is also a major driver of sustainable economic and social development. After we ratified the Convention in 2017, Ministry of Home Affairs and Rural Development is responsible for Tuvalu's ICH affairs.

Shen Ce: What difficulties does Tuvalu face in transmitting the traditional knowledge and skills within communities? Are there solutions?

Matini Vailopa: It is in fact difficult to transmit the traditional knowledge and skills within the Tuvalu communities, and especially difficult to archive them. Because of family privacy and taboos, transmission can only take place within the families. However, in my opinion, we still have some special solutions. Usually each of our communities has a meeting place called Falekaupule, which is usually a house for the elderly, where people usually pass on knowledge and skills to the younger generation, so this building is often called a "classroom". I think this is the best place in Tuvalu to transmit within communities the living cultural heritage of the families. Fatele community dance, fishing skills and sailing knowledge can be transmitted in this way. In addition, culture will be incorporated into our school textbooks and technical courses are designed to train those who can play a role in ICH safeguarding, and for example to impart weaving skills to young ethnic minority women in the communities.

We will collaborate with the World Intellectual Property Organization to strengthen the safeguarding of traditional knowledge. We will also organize national cultural festivals, trade fairs and other events to promote Tuvalu's ICH elements. In addition to this island, Tuvalu also has 8 outer islands. We hope to start with the most basic safeguarding and raise people's awareness of ICH safeguarding in all the islands by developing community-based ICH inventories first followed by inventorying at the national level and finally the nomination of representative elements.

Shen Ce: As one of the smallest countries in the world, what does Niue think of the relationship between ICH safeguarding and tourism development?

Liline Morrissey: As ICH elements are an important source for creative economy, efforts can be made to not only promote the intangible cultural heritage of Niue to visitors and tourists to gain economic benefits, but also preserve their vitality and survivability in a brand new way. I think rather than being contradictory, the two complement each other.

Shen Ce: What are the biggest challenges and obstacles facing Niue in the process of ratifying the Convention?

Liline Morrissey: When European colonists first discovered Niue, the tiny Pacific island state, they recorded a lot of ICH information through the natives. Not knowing Western languages, Niue people did not know what had been recorded until they learned to read and write in English. Books about ICH in Niue are not popular among the public due to uncertainty in the completeness, amount and types of information recorded. It's essential to build trust between staff and local people in order to gain the purest and most important ICH information. But this is difficult, since Niue people are more willing to share ICH information with foreigners instead of with local staff, which means a lot of ICH information has been taken abroad.

Despite the tremendous amount of preparation for ratifying the Convention and continued efforts over the years, there have been many failed attempts to build a database without technical support, because it requires the participation and cooperation of government agencies, legal entities and communities. We have learned a lot of information from this ICH training workshop, which will inspire ICH department in Niue to complete the ratification work.

Shen Ce: After listening to your report on ICH safeguarding in Niue, we gained a general understanding of Niue's progress, opportunities and plans in this respect. How do you prioritize the activities in your action plan?

Liline Morrissey: To date, since Niue has not joined the Convention, of course there is no nomination plan. At present, only the Cultural Heritage Department under the Ministry of Social Services is carrying out the ICH safeguarding without the involvement of NGOs. Niue's ICH inventorying at the national level is also under way, that is, Niue's ICH safeguarding is still in a very preliminary stage. We are currently stepping up ICH safeguarding activities at the government, community and university levels. At the government level, we have a "Ridge to Reef" safeguarding project dedicated to documenting ICH elements in Niue, and during which we maintain very close links with many villages. At the community level, our Avatele Women's Weaving Group is dedicated to ICH projects related to the art of weaving in Niue. At the university level, the University of South Pacific authorized Vagahau Niue as an important institution in the field of ICH safeguarding, which also involves the EU Global Climate Change Alliance. Under the upcoming 2020-2024 Action Plan, we will first solicit opinions of community leaders, village heads and elders (tupuna), collect data, and propose to the Cabinet to complete the ratification work; Then develop the ICH Inventory and share it with the people; Finally, in terms of utilization and research

of ICH, we will pay attention to the ethical standards of ICH utilization. The above tasks will be led by government departments and relevant stakeholders, with budgets of \$15,000, \$15,000 and \$6,000 respectively.

Incorporating ICH safeguarding into national cultural policies

Shen Ce: Along with cultural convergence brought about by globalization and capitalism and a major wave of emigration of Pacific Island residents, an increasing number of people come to realize the importance of cultural identity. They appreciate their traditional culture and are willing to practice traditional culture in their daily lives. It's fair to say that from the government to the people, the entire Pacific region is calling for the return of cultural traditions. So, what efforts have been made in the Pacific region to raise awareness of ICH safeguarding and formulate ICH-related cultural policies?

Bola Noho: With its 22 provinces, Papua New Guinea is a large state in the Pacific. Divided into two parts with one part belonging to Indonesia, our main island New Guinea (also known as Irian) is surrounded by Bismarck Islands, Bougainville and some other 600 islands. Papua New Guinea is part of the Melanesian Islands. Our mother tongue, Pigin, can also be understood by people in Solomon Islands and Vanuatu. Of course, we have no problem listening to and speaking English. The capital of Papua New Guinea is Port Moresby, but Goroka is a transportation hub and cultural center.

The Cultural Protection Act has been in force for years since its enactment by the PNG government in 1999. Based on the division of tangible cultural property and intangible cultural property, the Act covers all aspects of culture and is primarily dedicated to safeguarding through various forms the unique cultural heritage of Papua New Guinea. After Papua New Guinea completed the ratification of the Convention in 2008, ICH safeguarding is currently the responsibility of the Ministry of Tourism, Arts & Culture. Of course, many non-governmental organizations are involved in ICH safeguarding such as Papua New Guinea Bible Translation Association, PNG Red Cross Society, Partners with Melanesia, Melanesian Institute of Arts & Culture, PNG Linguistic Society and PNG Human Rights Advocacy. We have completed our National ICH Inventorying in the past six years after attending the training workshops on ICH inventorying in 2012 and 2013.



In terms of ICH safeguarding, our National Cultural Commission has worked out a five-year plan, under which we will, under the auspices of the National Cultural Commission and the National Museum and Art Gallery, carry out activities including live performances, drama creation as well as arts and crafts exhibitions in collaboration with non-governmental organizations and administrative agencies at the local level. Since we do not have a cultural library, what we do is to preserve our cultural heritage, for example through various live traditional performances in our communities and villages. Of course, as part of the Indonesian Islands, Papua New Guinea belongs to the Melanesian Islands like Fiji, the Solomon Islands and Vanuatu, with whom we maintain close relationships like brothers and sisters. Many of our cultural activities have been carried out to spread and promote the culture of Melanesia Islands. To my knowledge, this may be similar to what the Solomon Islands does.

Steven Namosu Paukari: The cultural department of the Solomon Islands government is developing a series of very practical programs to address the plight of endangered ICH elements by conducting survey and registration as a first step. We have been working on the national inventorying of ICH elements and bearers since 2012. For the same ICH element, different groups of the community are recording and safeguarding it in different ways. Currently, there are 120 inventoried ICH

elements in the Solomon Islands. These elements in need of urgent safeguarding cover the five major ICH categories, all of which have made special contribution and are of special value to the culture of human kind. Since the National ICH Inventorying has been completed, we will take the next step to concentrate on nomination of ICH elements at the national level.

Shen Ce: It is a strategic trend for ICH safeguarding worldwide to incorporate ICH into the overall national development plan. What are the salient features of cultural protection policy in the Cook Islands and the Kingdom of Tonga compared to other Pacific small island states?

Kate Ngatokorua: The national cultural policy in the Cook Islands focuses on five areas: language, artistic expressions, the birthplace of history and stories, cultural industries and government support. We pay particular attention to the mother tongue culture of the Cook Islands, as use of mother tongue in the Cook Islands is deteriorating. We have developed a series of strategies for the revival of our mother tongue the Maori language, which emphasizes using mother tongue at homes, schools and workplaces. Many islands in the Cook Islands have their own dialects, which are also ICH elements that we need to safeguard. Under the National Sustainable Development Plan, there are 14 goals and 3 indicators related to culture, with the latter being mother tongue education, the birthplace of history and stories, and digitalization, all of which are closely connected with education.

We launched the Traditional Knowledge Act in 2013 so that communities can continue to use this traditional knowledge and record it for cross-generational transmission. What we have done so far is to count and utilize the traditional knowledge owned by different communities and use this Act to protect it.

Senoliita Fonokalafi: In order to reverse the plight of some endangered ICH elements, the Tongan government is focusing its efforts on safeguarding ICH elements, for example by incorporating Lakalaka (dances and sung speeches of Tonga) into the key safeguarding targets. Of course, we will also carry out many ICH activities to safeguard ICH and meanwhile boost tourism economy. For example, we have an ICH Cultural Week during which different ICH elements are performed every day. The Tongan cultural departments will, in collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture and the Ministry of Education, carry out related safeguarding projects and transmission activities.



Cultural mapping and capacity building for ICH transmission

Shen Ce: Due to historical and geographical reasons, Fiji has a very pluralistic culture among the Pacific island states. But this multicultural background is facing challenges. In this context, how does Fiji strengthen ICH safeguarding at the community and national levels?

Taitusi Arhelger: Fiji does have very diverse cultural traditions, since people with other culture background will become Fijians when they come to Fiji. What we do is cultural mapping. We are currently conducting mapping first in the Rotuma community, followed by other ethnic minorities, especially indigenous communities. We also incorporate ICH and other related content into national courses in social sciences, history, geography, business and trade. At the community level, we try to make ICH a livelihood practice. We hope to incorporate these records into our pluralistic culture bit by bit. If you come to Fiji again - you will definitely come back (laugh) - you will see our field cultural mapping for more communities.

After the ratification of the Convention in 2010, Fiji began to implement the Convention from 2013, with fiscal support of approximately 80,000 Fiji dollars (1 Fiji dollar equals 3.19 yuan). But we still need a lot of funding, and fortunately, Fiji's budget for ICH is growing year by year. National institutions involved in ICH safeguarding include Department of Heritage and Arts under the Ministry of Education, Fiji National Museum, Fiji Arts Council, National Trust of Fiji and Multi-Cultural Centre. However, only two staff members are responsible for the ICH work of the entire state with a total population of 900,000, which is far from enough. At present, Fiji's National ICH Inventorying is in progress. Having realized the importance of ICH nomination, we intend to nominate masi fabrics (Fiji traditional clothing) and tapa cloth jointly with other Pacific states. We began to formulate national cultural policy from early 2019, and we are now in the drafting stage after the first stage of consultation. Fortunately, our government has recognized the importance of ICH safeguarding. Although there is still a long way to go, we will choose the right people and give play to their enthusiasm to safeguard Fiji's precious ICH elements. Recognizing the importance of establishing an ICH agency and the need to improve ICH safeguarding and transmission, the Fiji Government is currently considering increasing investment on all fronts and is working hard to set up the Ministry of Culture, Heritage, Arts and Tourism in order to bring about all-round improvements in safeguarding Fiji's ICH.

I think this workshop is a very good opportunity for Pacific states. On the one hand, it is a very good practice for CRIHAP to bring the Pacific states with cultural similarities to a round table, where they can share their experience in ICH safeguarding and discuss cultural protection and ICH safeguarding. On the other hand, we are grateful that having realized the importance of Pacific culture and the needs of these states including Fiji, international organizations such as UNESCO and CRIHAP have come to help Pacific island states to enhance their capacity building for ICH transmission.

Note: The article was edited based on interview recording. The author will be responsible for any errors that occur due to time constraints.

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▲ A group photo of workshop participants

CRIHAP Updates

Workshop on ICH Inventorying Held in Bangladesh

The Workshop on Intangible Cultural Heritage Inventorying, co-organized by CRIHAP and the UNESCO Dhaka Office, was held in Dhaka, capital of Bangladesh, from 22 to 25 September 2019. The training was attended by 25 trainees from cultural departments of the Bangladeshi Government as well as research institutions and universities, 16 of whom had participated in the capacity building workshop on ICH safeguarding, the first of a series of trainings organized by CRIHAP in Bangladesh in 2018. During the 4-day training workshop, UNESCO-accredited facilitators Ms. Noriko Aikawa and Ms. Alexandra Denes helped trainees to gain deeper understanding of the 2003 Convention and inventory development through classroom lectures, group discussions and field visits.

Based on careful study on the situation of ICH safeguarding in Bangladesh and detailed summary of previous training sessions, the CRIHAP team, kicking off preparations 9 months in advance, developed a more reasonable training plan that contains such diverse contents as developing project-specific safeguarding measures, guiding trainees to play community role, and simulation exercises. During the training workshop, the CRIHAP team was not only actively engaged in classroom lectures and group discussions but also arranged a field visit to Sonargaon Community in the vicinity of Dhaka despite some local difficulties, enabling trainees to learn about local ICH elements such as woodcarving, wooden painting and hand weaving. With consistent and insightful training contents, the workshop achieved expected results.

In the classroom lectures, the CRIHAP team also introduced UNESCO's global capacity-building strategy and the working mechanism of category 2 centres, which received active feedback from the trainees.

The Guidance Manual, a handbook on ICH inventory development in Bangladesh compiled on the basis of experiences and contents of previous trainings, was released as an important reference for this training workshop, drawing great attention of the trainees. With focus on the purposes of inventory development, mind maps, ethical principles and country-specific cases, the Guidance Manual is an important guide that summarizes and analyzes the situation of inventory development and specific cases in Bangladesh. As training outcomes, such publications can benefit training-recipient countries by providing intellectual support for future work relating to ICH safeguarding, and moreover, maximize the influence of the training by reaching out to a wider range of readers through extensive circulation in the Asia-Pacific region and within the UNESCO system.

Bangladesh is located in South Asia where numerous ethnic groups, religious beliefs and diversified cultures co-exist. Ms. Batrice Kaldun, representative of UNESCO Dhaka Office, said that as Bangladesh faces many difficulties in ICH safeguarding despite its extremely rich ICH resources, it therefore desperately needs support and guidance by professional institutions like CRIHAP, and is looking forward to CRIHAP's continued efforts to provide capacity building service for Bangladesh. The Government of Bangladesh attaches great importance to the training workshop. Mr. Fahimul Islam, Joint Secretary of the Ministry of Cultural Affairs of Bangladesh who attended the workshop as a trainee, said that the training enabled him to learn about CRIHAP, in particular its active role in ICH safeguarding worldwide. He expressed hope for the establishment of a long-term partnership between Bangladesh and CRIHAP so as to facilitate the development of ICH safeguarding in Bangladesh.



Participants visit traditional weaving community in Bangladesh.

Workshop on "Review on Capacity Building Workshops (2012-2018) organized by CRIHAP and Recommendations on Future Activities" Held in Chengdu

As an important event celebrating the 7th International Festival of the Intangible Cultural Heritage in Chengdu, the workshop "Review on Capacity Building Workshops (2012-2018) organized by CRIHAP and Recommendations on Future Activities" was launched on 16 October 2019. It was jointly hosted by CRIHAP, UNESCO Beijing Office and Chengdu Municipal Administration of Culture, Radio, TV and Tourism and organized by Chengdu ICH Safeguarding Center.

In her speech at the opening ceremony, Ms. Himalchuli Gurung, Programme Specialist for Culture at UNESCO Beijing Office, noted that the development of human society cannot be separated from culture. Being both strong and fragile, intangible cultural heritage from different regions can promote cultural exchanges and help people respect each other's lifestyles. She congratulated CRIHAP on its fruitful achievements in capacity building training across the Asia-Pacific, a region rich in cultural diversity. By gradually adopting innovative training methods and strengthening close cooperation with UNESCO Headquarters, Field offices and academic institutions, CRIHAP is committed to the implementation of capacity-building strategies through its outstanding efforts. She thanked CRIHAP for engaging as many communities as possible in safeguarding and transmitting intangible cultural heritage, enhancing the awareness of ICH safeguarding, and enabling relevant stakeholders to understand the significance of ICH safeguarding.

Mr. Wang Fuzhou, Vice President of the Chinese National Academy of Arts and Director-General of China National Centre for the Safeguarding the Intangible Cultural Heritage, remarked that CRIHAP has continued to effectively carry out intangible cultural heritage training activities in the spirit of the Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage (hereinafter referred to as the Convention), and has systematically promoted ICH safeguarding in light of the new trend of UNESCO in this regard. In the future, CRIHAP should continue to enhance theoretical understanding of intangible cultural heritage and explore new training ideas to inspire deeper learning.



▲ Wang Fuzhou, Vice President of the Chinese National Academy of Arts and Director-General of China National Centre for the Safeguarding the Intangible Cultural Heritage, speaks at the workshop.

Mr. Wang Chenyang, First-level Inspector of the Department of Intangible Cultural Heritage of the Ministry of Culture and Tourism of China, presented the report "Capacity Building of Intangible Cultural Heritage Safeguarding in China". He pointed out that at present, it is the main task of China's ICH safeguarding to improve the level of ICH transmission, and bring intangible cultural heritage back to the communities and to daily lives. He noted that intangible cultural heritage should be safeguarded in a scientific way, with focus on transmission capacity, practice and environment, so as to give full play to the social role of ICH in people's lives, promote contemporary values of ICH and facilitate sustainable social development.

Mr. Liang Bin, Director-General of CRIHAP, gave an overview of CRIHAP's capacity building training from 2012 to 2018. He noted that in the past seven years, with the strong support of relevant departments of the Chinese Government, UNESCO and its member states in the Asia-Pacific region, as well as relevant international organizations, CRIHAP carried out ICH trainings at regional, sub-regional and national levels. In addition to general training themes set out by UNESCO, such as ratification and implementation of the Convention, community-based inventorying, and safeguarding plan and policy development, CRIHAP has also incorporated specific training themes like ICH and natural disasters, ICH and media, and ICH



▲ An exhibition to review CRIHAP events displayed at the workshop

and higher education, which have received positive feedback from the Asia-Pacific region and the international community. Amid continued expansion of CRIHAP's cooperation network and increasing needs for ICH training in Asia-Pacific, it is essential to study the needs and suggestions of various countries and regions on future training.

Partners from over 20 Asia-Pacific countries including China, ROK, Pakistan, Nepal, Vietnam, Fiji and Mongolia, and trainees of previous CRIHAP training workshops including officials in charge of ICH safeguarding at provincial cultural departments across China offered valuable comments and suggestions on CRIHAP's training programmes in the future.

Representatives of UNESCO cluster offices and UNESCO facilitators introduced the latest developments in ICH safeguarding, in particular ICH and emergency, ICH and NGOs, ICH and cities, ICH and traditional indigenous languages, ICH Safeguarding in formal and non-formal education, ICH and gender, ethical principles, international assistance requests, and ICH and sustainable development. They also shared with participants updated knowledge and interpretation of the Convention.

During the workshop, trainees also attended the opening ceremony of the 7th International Festival of the Intangible Cultural Heritage and the International Forum on the Intangible Cultural Heritage in Chengdu and took a field visit to Pengzhou White Porcelain Art Center.



Training of Trainers Workshop on Implementation of the 2003 Convention for the Safeguarding of the ICH at the National Level Held in the Philippines

National Training of Trainers workshop on Implementation of the 2003 Convention for the Safeguarding of the ICH, co-organized by CRIHAP and the National Commission for Culture and the Arts of the Republic of the Philippines, was successfully held from 4 to 8 November 2019 in Manila, the Philippines. The workshop was attended by 40 trainees, including representatives from the National Commission for Culture and the Arts of the Republic of the Philippines, provincial cultural departments, the National Commission of the Philippines for UNESCO, and non-governmental organizations, community ICH projects and ICH practitioners. Ms. Alexandra Denes and Ms. Linina Phuttitarn, UNESCO-accredited facilitators, were invited to give lectures at the workshop.

As the first capacity building training program ever launched in the Philippines under the framework of the Convention since its ratification in 2006 and the first of its kind at the national level ever organized by CRIHAP for the Philippines, this workshop aims to enhance the country's capacity to effectively implement the Convention and to safeguard ICH at the national level, and to publicize the spirit and value of the Convention.

Through classroom lectures, group discussions, case studies and interactions, facilitators elaborated, explained and analyzed such diverse topics as basic concepts, latest practices, community participation and ethical principles of the Convention and how to facilitate sustainable safeguarding of the ICH and enhance community participation. The trainees, divided into six groups, carried out discussions and tasks, practiced inventorying during field study under the guidance of the facilitators, and discussed difficulties and priorities in ICH inventorying.

The training workshop was designed to meet the urgent needs of the Philippines for improving its capacity for ICH safeguarding and the implementation of the Convention after it became the State Party to the Convention, for promoting public understanding of the significance of ICH and raising public awareness of ICH safeguarding, and for training a number of trainers at the national level. As the first of a series of three-year ICH capacity building trainings for the Philippines planned and organized by CRIHAP, the workshop was highly valued by the National Commission for Culture and the Arts of the Philippines. Mr. Virgilio S. Almario, President of the National Commission for Culture and the Arts of the Philippines, spoke highly of CRIHAP's contribution to the country's capacity building for ICH safeguarding, and expressed heartfelt thanks to CRIHAP for holding this significant workshop for the Philippines. CRIHAP will continue to provide the Philippines with tailor-made professional trainings in capacity building for ICH safeguarding.



Workshop on Higher Education-based ICH Capacity Building Held in Mongolia

Jointly organized by CRIHAP, the Mongolian Council for Cultural Heritage Networking and Communication and the Mongolian National Center for Cultural Heritage and under the support of UNESCO Beijing Office, the Training Workshop on Higher Education-based ICH Capacity Building was held in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia from 28 to 30 November 2019. The workshop was attended by 32 trainees including lecturers, professors and project heads from 11 universities across Mongolia and 13 local experts from the National Center for Cultural Heritage.

Focusing on the theme of "ICH and higher education", UNESCO-accredited facilitators Ms. Suzanne Ogge and Ms. Saruul Arslan introduced key concepts of the 2003 Convention, inventory development, and ICH and sustainable development through classroom lectures, group discussions and case analysis. Facilitators also guided trainees to carry out analysis and discussion on integrating ICH into discipline development and course design in universities on the basis of ICH safeguarding cases and the integration of ICH and higher education in Mongolia.

Through classroom interactions, facilitators realized that since most trainees never had access to the Convention nor participated in any UNESCO capacity building trainings, they obviously had difficulties in understanding the Convention glossary and ICH concepts. In response to the situation, the CRIHAP team held a meeting with facilitators and Mongolian project leaders to modify teaching plans, in particular adding several ICH elements for case study, such as "Strategy for training the coming generations of Fujian puppetry practitioners" inscribed on the Register of Good Safeguarding Practice and the Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity. In addition, group discussion was prolonged and simulation practices added. These modifications significantly enhanced the trainees' enthusiasm. "Analysis of diverse cases is the simplest and most effective way to understand ICH concepts. Apparently, short videos are easier to understand than lengthy written descriptions. We have

truly benefited a lot from the training," said a trainee representative during the interview by CRIHAP.

Focusing on different ICH projects in group discussions, each group carried out in-depth analysis of possible projects execution in universities and relevant course design. In the spirit of the Convention and pursuant to the Operational Directives, the Teaching Proposal of Mongolia for University Courses on the Intangible Cultural Heritage was finalized on the basis of the state of ICH safeguarding in Mongolia.

As a follow-up to the open discussion, CRIHAP staff members exchanged views with the trainees on the safeguarding of ICH elements of performing arts in China, the survival environment and challenges facing the intangible cultural heritage in Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region of China, and the role of the intangible cultural heritage in China's higher education system.

This is the second capacity building training workshop that CRIHAP has organized for Mongolia under the framework of the Convention, following the capacity building workshop on the role of media for implementation of the Convention for the Safeguarding of ICH in Mongolia held in 2017. It is also the first training workshop on higher education-based ICH capacity building that CRIHAP has ever organized for university practitioners outside China.

Mr. G. Enknbat, Director of the National Center for Cultural Heritage of Mongolia, noted that the training workshop provides a rare opportunity for Mongolian university practitioners to gather and learn about the Convention. The trainees not only gained knowledge about ICH but also broadened visions of ICH safeguarding. And a platform of communication and interaction on ICH discipline development in Mongolian universities has been established as an outcome of the workshop. He also said that the ICH safeguarding in Mongolia has drawn attention of various parties, in particular, CRIHAP has provided continued assistance and support. He believed that relevant Mongolian institutions have established good partnership with CRIHAP during previous exchanges and collaborations, and trainings under the auspices of CRIHAP have promoted understanding of the intangible cultural heritage among Mongolian media practitioners, achieving positive results. This workshop has deepened friendship and trust between them and laid a solid foundation for their future cooperation.

CRIHAP Newsletter



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International Training Centre
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under the auspices of UNESCO
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